

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the [Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance](#) prior to completing this form

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i>
Climate Change and Natural Resource Science Advisory Committee
(2) AUTHORITY <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i>
The Committee is in the public interest in connection with the responsibilities of the Department of the Interior (DOI) under Section 2 of the Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008, P.L. 110-161. The Committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2.
(3) MISSION/FUNCTION <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i>
The Committee advises the Secretary of the Interior on the establishment and operations of the U.S. Geological Survey National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center and the DOI Climate Science Centers.
(4) POINTS OF VIEW <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,</i> <i>(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;</i> <i>(b) consider identifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and</i> <i>(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i>
<p>The members of the Committee shall be composed of approximately 25 members from both the Federal Government, and the following interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State and local governments, including state membership entities such as the Western Governors Association or Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. • Non-governmental organizations, including those whose primary mission is professional/scientific; those whose primary mission is conservation and related scientific and advocacy activities, and those whose primary mission is advancing the interests of landowners and other business interests. • American Indian tribes and tribal organizations (e.g. Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission) as well as representatives of Alaska Natives and Hawaiian natives. • Academia • Individual landowners • Business interests <p>In addition, the Committee may include scientific experts, and will include rotating representation from one or more of the institutions that host DOI Climate Science Centers.</p>

(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS

List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC

Additional considerations will be given in selection of members to ensure geographic diversity.

(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

In order to obtain members, the DOI announces a 30-day open call for nominations period in the Federal Register and the DFO will solicit candidate names from the Federal agencies.

The DFO will develop a candidate list that will be evaluated by the Associate Director for Climate and Land Use Change (for relevant experience/expertise). A short list of the best qualified candidates will be developed and discussed with the Director, U.S. Geological Survey and the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science.

The resulting top candidates will be vetted by the White House Liaison and approved for appointment. Formal letters of invitation to serve on the Committee will be extended by the Secretary.

A vacancy on the Committee will be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

Members serve for 2 or 3-year terms.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

Subcommittees are not subject to FACA because they are not providing advice directly to a Federal Officer of the Department of the Interior. All advice or work products go directly to the parent Committee for review, consideration and deliberation at a FAC meeting before being submitted to the Department of the Interior through the DFO.

(8) OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

Additional considerations will be given in selection of members to ensure geographic diversity.

(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

06/02/2011; revised by ROMalley, USGS 8/1/11